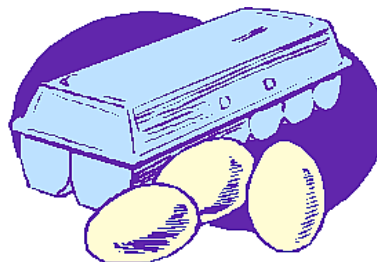


POULTRY



POULTRY continues to be one of Virginia's most valuable commodities, contributing sales of 745 million to the economy in 2000. This was nearly a 2 percent decrease compared with the 757 million in sales generated in 1999.

The number of commercial BROILERS raised in Virginia decreased slightly in 2000 to 264.9 million. Production totaled nearly 1.30 billion pounds compared to the 1.32 billion pounds produced in 1999. Total cash receipts in Virginia totaled \$441.3 million, down nearly 7 percent compared to

1999. This marked the second year in a row that broiler cash receipts decreased in Virginia. Virginia ranks 8th in the nation in broilers produced.

TURKEY production increased in 2000 to 553.4 million pounds compared to 525.6 million pounds produced in 1999. The number of turkeys raised also increased 6 percent to 25.5 million. The value of Virginia's turkey production also rose nearly 8 percent to \$237.9 million, up from \$220.8 million in 1999. Virginia ranks 4th in the nation in turkeys

produced.

Virginia EGG production totaled 824 million in 2000, down nearly 3 percent from the 845 million eggs produced in 1999. Even with the decrease in production, the value of eggs increased to \$66.1 million, compared to \$62.3 million in 1999. The average price per dozen eggs was up nearly 9 percent from 1999. Producers averaged 96.3 cents per dozen which was the best price received since 1996.



Poultry continues to be one of Virginia's most valuable commodities, contributing sales of \$745 million to the economy in 2000.
